



January 10, 2005

Re: Nurse Aide Registry
Findings of Abuse, Neglect or
Misappropriation of Resident Property

Dear Provider/State Registries:

Attached for your information and appropriate action is a list of certified nurse aides who have a finding of abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of resident property entered on the Nurse Aide Registry, to date, by the state's Survey Agency.

Please note this list supersedes the list posted to our website on October 5, 2004. Some names on that list have been removed and new ones have been added.

As you know, Section 483.13 ©, Code of Federal Regulations, prohibits a nursing home from employing individuals who have been found guilty of abusing, neglecting, or mistreating residents by a court of law, or, who have had a finding entered into the state Nurse Aide Registry regarding abuse, neglect, mistreatment of residents, or misappropriation of their property.

According to the Federal interpretive guidelines, the intent of this regulation is "to prevent employment of individuals who have been convicted of abusing, neglecting, or mistreating individuals in a health care setting, e.g., residents of a nursing facility or in a hospital. Facilities must be thorough in their investigation of the past histories of individuals they are considering hiring. In addition to inquiry of the state Nurse Aide Registry or other licensing authorities, the facility should check all references and make reasonable efforts to uncover information about any past criminal prosecutions."

Because of the investigatory process and due process requirements, we have found that there is often a significant time lag between an alleged incident and its final disposition. We have also found that nurse aides frequently obtain employment in other nursing facilities after an allegation is made, but before the process is complete. In such cases, the new facility, even though it had checked the registry at the time of employment, may continue to employ the aide after a finding has been entered unless the facility receives notice of such entry or periodically makes inquiries of the registry.

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If you would like any additional information contained on the Georgia Registry regarding these or other certified nurse aides, you may check our website at www.ghp.georgia.gov or contact staff at (678) 527-3010 or (800) 414-4358.

We hope you find this information helpful. We will periodically distribute updated lists to facilitate your efforts to meet the intent of these regulations. Please feel free to call staff at the Georgia Health Partnership if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Georgia Health Partnership
Nurse Aide Registry